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INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

REPORT CD NO.

COUNTRY

PUBLISHED

Communist China

SUBJECT

Political

INFORMATION

HOW

Daily newspaper

DATE DIST. 2 / May 1949

WHERE

PUBLISHED Shang-hai NO. OF PAGES

DATE

PUBLISHED

7 Apr 1949

SUPPLEMENT TO

LANGUAGE

Chinese

REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

Shen Pao.

DAVIS REPORTS ON PEI-P'ING UNDER CCP

Davis, former manager of the now discontinued office of the ECA in Pei-ping upon being interviewed in Shang-hai, gave a number of interesting sidelights on conditions in that city under CCP rule.

Davis indicated that according to his personal observation the troops of General Fu Tso-i continued to retain their own organization, and had none of the appearance of defeated armies.

Pei-p'ing students, although now eating a reduced diet of millet instead or cleur, were enthusiastic in their support of the new authorities and appeared to be happy. The Communists seem to be adept at giving the students a sense of importance. A training school for Party workers who will operate in South China has enrolled 800 students for 2 months training.

The attitude of the students, Davis indicated, could not be considered representative of the population at large. Opposition literature is appearing and Communist posters on the streets are often torn down at night. Crime is on the increase, especially mirder, and the police stand entity is groupe of

He also said that while food prices had been rising in Pei-ping in terms of Min-pine (peoples' currency) from the low reached at the beginning of the Communist occupation, they were still low in terms of US currency. He cuphasized, however, that food prices in the surrounding countryside are about twice what they are in the city. Ho stated that farmers' rents and taxes are high, with taxes aggregating about 50 recent

Communist morale seemed good and their behavior exemplary, but their dire shortage of trained personnel sometimes led them into serious mistakes.

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